

# HICKORY DAILY RECORD

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## MANY DEATHS RESULT WOOD ALCOHOL

By the Associated Press  
New York, Dec. 27.—Federal authorities, police and health officers in many eastern cities took action today in the sale of wood alcohol following the death of men and women in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The deaths from this cause total at least 41 persons today. Officials reported that probably many more deaths occurred from coast to coast. Agents are cooperating with health officers in warning the public of the danger of anything that passes through the saloons. Chicago Falls, Ill., was the hardest hit.

## NINE IN CLEVELAND

By the Associated Press  
Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 27.—Nine victims of wood alcohol poisoning were in Cleveland hospitals today, raising the list of sufferers to 47. In the same week three deaths have been traced to wood alcohol or poisoning placing the number of victims at a score.

## KILLED 45 IN CHICAGO

By the Associated Press  
Chicago, Dec. 27.—County and city officials here today joined hands for a crusade against selling for a beverage wood alcohol which since July killed 45 men. Four today were hospitalized unconscious from drinking wood alcohol and four died yesterday.

## PANISH PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING REFORMS

By the Associated Press  
Tokyo, Dec. 26.—Mass meetings frequently held in Tokio and other cities for the purpose of demanding reforms, more especially the granting of universal suffrage. A group of young men who formed the Young Men's Reconstruction Association called on Premier Hara and asked his views on the question of universal suffrage. Mr. Hara replied that the question was so important that he could not give an offhand opinion.

## OTHER OFFICERS BACK SIMS LETTER

By the Associated Press  
Washington, Dec. 27.—The revised report on naval decorations to be made by the Knight board, after a review of all the facts, probably will be accepted, Secretary Daniels said today. The secretary added that he would forward the report to the president or act for the president in the matter.

## NEGRO AGED 125 IS REPORTED DEAD

By the Associated Press  
Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 27.—William Payton, a negro, one of the oldest men in the United States, died yesterday near Little Hocking at the age of 125 years. In his youth Payton was a slave of a family by the name of Creel and moved to West Virginia after the war. As a slave and as a freedman he served this family for six generations.

## FACTORIES CLOSED

By the Associated Press  
Madrid, Dec. 27.—Many tobacco factories in Spain have been closed on strikes. It is estimated that many thousands of hands were idle. Manufacturers said there was no tobacco in the warehouses.

## MR. CUMMINS' MASTERPIECE

Springfield Republican.  
The Cummins railroad bill has passed the senate substantially as Mr. Cummins framed it, and this is a notable tribute to the senator. He deserves credit for courageous innovations, whether or not they are wholly wise. To him goes the chief responsibility and the credit for such radical changes in our railroad policy if enacted into law, as a government guarantee of a minimum return on the private capital invested, and the strengthening of weak roads with the surplus earnings of strong roads, compulsory consolidations of railroads into some 25 or 30 systems corresponding to as many transportation areas, federal incorporation of the companies, a division of authority between the old interstate commerce commission and a new federal transportation board, and declaring strikes in interstate commerce unlawful.

The antistrike provision will probably fail in conference between the two houses, as the lower branch seems strongly against it. A very similar antistrike proposal applying to street railways has just been rejected by the committee on legal affairs in the Massachusetts legislature, with the apparent approval of the legislature as a whole. Labor union arguments that such a measure of repression would greatly increase radicalism among members of labor organizations proved effective. Taking popular psychology into account, particularly organized labor's growing fear that capital seeks to crush it, this feature of the Cummins bill seems inexpedient at the present time. It takes two to make war and to make peace, and a measure of this drastic character cannot be forced upon a whole class violently antagonistic to it without results perhaps more harmful than beneficial.

The house bill is much the more conservative in that it leaves the old order existing before the war more nearly intact. By so much the house bill is less of a departure from the principles of private ownership. It permits consolidations of railroads, but it does not compel them. It does not create a new body to divide authority with the interstate commerce commission. It leaves rate-making exactly where it was before the war. It does not guarantee a minimum return on capital to the railroad security holders. Because it is so conservative the house bill may be seriously defective, for the old system, according to the opinion of the foremost authorities, had broken down. In regard to credit, the railroads were being starved and their development impeded.

The Cummins bill represents an effort and a very skillful one, to combine the advantages of government ownership with the perpetuation of private ownership although it is based on the assumption that government ownership is out of the question. Thus it goes far toward the consolidation of strong and weak lines; in rate-making it requires rates that will yield a "fair" return, while the guaranteed minimum return amounts to the use of the government credit to insure privately owned railroads against unbusinesslike liquidation, bankruptcy, defaulting or bankruptcy, the weak and the strong roads being practically equalized in financial power and resources.

It is an ingenious scheme, but private ownership is left only in name, the full rewards of private initiative and ability being cut down and the strong being sacrificed for the sake of the weak in order that the inherent difficulties in the system of private ownership of railroads may be overcome. The warning of may be experts is that the plan will fail because the nerve of private enterprise to make money is cut and it will find railroad investments unattractive in competition with investments where the earnings are not curtailed contrary to the competitive principles of the capitalist system. If the Cummins bill is enacted, this is one of the chief problems to be solved by experience.

## OIL FOR COAL

By the Associated Press  
London, Dec. 11.—The disturbed conditions in the coal industry in Great Britain are causing more and more interest in the substitution of oil fuel for coal, according to the board of trade.

## Miss McComb Hostess

Miss Millie Kate McComb was hostess yesterday afternoon to the Do As You Please Club. A good attendance was present with Miss Sadie Menzies and Miss Leihart of Erie, Pa., as welcome guests. Several Victrola selections were enjoyed and after an hour of chat on books exchanged the hostess assisted by Miss Margaret McComb served a delicious salad course.

Mr. Fletcher Dorsett is spending several days in Charlotte.

## PRESIDENT WILSON IS 63 TOMORROW

By the Associated Press  
Washington, Dec. 27.—President Wilson will be 63 years old tomorrow. His daughters Mrs. William G. McAdoo and Mrs. Francis B. Sayre expressed a desire a week or two ago to be at the white house for the occasion and they may come to Washington.

## MILLION ORANGES IN BIG EXHIBIT

San Bernardino, Calif., Dec. 24.—More than 1,000,000 oranges will be used in citrus fruit growers of California to build their annual exposition, the National Orange Show, to celebrate the 110th anniversary of the planting of one of California's first orange trees, by Padre Dumetz, a Franciscan.

The exposition will be held in San Bernardino, February 13 to 23. Florida will send fruit to compete in some of the citrus fruit classifications.

For ten years the citrus growers of California have been entertaining many thousands of people from many states at their exposition. It will be laid out in a great garden of flowers at a park, and citrus fruit communities of the state will vie with each other in the splendor of their works of art created from the golden fruit.

The site of the orange show is at the spot where the Franciscan padre planted the first orange tree of the region.

Prizes will be awarded to the growers who produce the choicest of oranges, grapefruit and lemons.

Last year more than 100,000 people attended the exposition, which has become one of California's most famous mid-winter events.

## AMERICAN JAZZ MUSIC IN MEXICO

By the Associated Press  
Mexico City, Dec. 13.—American jazz music which until recently has been received coldly by the Mexican public is gaining in favor and no dance program or cafe concert here is now complete unless it includes three or four selections reminiscent of Broadway's whining saxophones and syncopated pianos. The reason for the slowness with which the capital has succumbed to the jazz is that the latter possesses none of the rhythm and seductive melody of native Mexican music, nor of the Spanish and Cuban music which is next in popularity.

Bands and orchestras abound here. The Mexican is a natural musician and the songs that have been written for him range from the wild rebel chant of the "La Cucaracha" to the dreamy, romantic "Beautiful Mexico." Concerts are given in the parks. Although termed "popular" they are made up for the most part of grand opera selections and America ragtime as yet has not found a place on such programs. The Mexican is a lover of classical music.

## HINDENBURG GIVEN WARM RECEPTION

By the Associated Press  
Berlin, Dec. 26.—Germany is gravely concerned over the military demonstrations which attended the recent arrival in Berlin of Field Marshal von Hindenburg when he came to testify before the committee of the national assembly.

The pan-German newspapers loudly rejoiced and are gleeful over the fact that an honor company of the national defence troops was called out to stand guard around the railway station when Hindenburg entered the city. They tell with joy how Hindenburg and Ludendorff received the company and how the crowd pressed around the two former military leaders kissing their hands and clothing.

On the other hand the Vorwaerts, the socialist newspaper, denounces the whole affair as a political demonstration with a pan-German coloring. The paper blamed Major General Reinhardt, commander of the Berlin troops, for "executing this trick" and criticized the government for allowing him to do it. General Reinhardt has since been ordered to retire from the army.

Baron von Richthofen, addressing the democratic assembly at Lankwitz, said: The latest events in Berlin have not increased abroad the belief in Germany's democracy and the stability of the new German republic. The militaristic demonstrations cannot possibly induce the English and especially the French to leave us the docks and cranes which we need for the reconstruction of our economical life.

For North Carolina Fair tonight and Sunday, not much change in temperature, moderate west winds.

## EIGHTEEN MEMBERS CAVALRY PLATOON

The cavalry platoon for Hickory is now assured. With 18 men already signed up, Capt. Wade V. Bowman is making steady progress, despite the fact that he is out of the city most of the time, and cannot give the matter his personal attention. In addition to the 11 men he enlisted last Tuesday night, he has obtained seven more men and by January 15 expects to have the platoon accepted.

By early spring it is hoped to have the platoon increased to a full troop. All young men who care to enlist may see Mr. Hugh M. Miller at the Record office or Captain Bowman.

The following men have already enlisted: Oscar T. Pitts, Eugent H. Beard, Earl E. Reitzel, Robert C. Ritchie, Vin P. Bolch, Chas. O. Herman, Thomas L. Nichols, Louie A. Whitener, Charles M. Coffey, Claude A. Coffey, Floyd G. Fincannon, Murphy B. Whitener, George E. Tolbert, Clyde O. Bosten, Otis A. Cook, Donald B. Drum, J. Isenhour, Clarence G. Settemyer and Harvey G. Wilfong.

## CHINESE STUDENTS TO ENTER FRENCH SCHOOLS

By the Associated Press  
Paris, Dec. 11.—Chinese students of both sexes are expected to come to France at the rate of 5000 to 6,000 a year during the next two years. This influx is ascribed to the fact that the Chinese are no longer attracted by German universities or Japanese colleges owing to the war and the Chinese national feeling over the Shantung affair. Another reason for their choice of France is that the United States imposes restrictions upon Japanese immigrants.

This affords France a unique opportunity to shape the careers of those destined to be the nucleus of industrial and intellectual China of tomorrow. French transportation companies are offering the Chinese cheap rates of transportation to bring them to France.

About 1,000 young Chinese are already in France, the modern scientific methods of industry, finance, commerce and agriculture.

American sympathizers including Madame Hugues LeRoux, Mrs. Herman Duryer and Mrs. William Astor Chanler have provided a tent as an organization center for the new arrivals.

These Chinese have vowed to live cleanly and frugally and to abstain from gambling and opium smoking.

The two 18-year old girls are pioneers of their sex among the students. They arrived yesterday clad in tailored-made gowns. Scores more Chinese girls are expected to follow.

Mr. R. C. Glenn, who holds a position in the treasury department at Washington, is the guest of his sister, Mrs. D. L. Russell, over the holidays.

Mrs. and Mrs. R. R. Lawrence of Asheville were guests over Christmas of Mrs. Lawrence's mother, Mrs. China. Mr. Lawrence returned to Asheville Friday but Mrs. Lawrence will remain for a week's visit.

## "The Impossible Burleson"

New York Evening Post.

The postmaster-general holds that his action in denying the mail privileges to the Call involved the exercise of judgment and discretion on his part, and that it is not a subject to be "reviewed, reversed, set aside, or controlled by a court of law."

Thus does Mr. Burleson tell the country where it gets off. A law passed by the unanimous vote of both houses of Congress may be carried to the supreme court by the highest citizen and there declared null and void. An amendment to the constitution duly passed by Congress and ratified by the states may be taken before the same tribunal. An act of the president, in peace, or war, may be questioned in the courts. Orders of Abraham Lincoln, issued in the midst of the nation's struggle for its life, were so questioned and found to be in excess of his authority. It is only a postmaster-general who is above courts. Every copy of a newspaper that reaches its subscriber through the mails today does it only through the graciousness of Mr. Burleson. If he chooses, he may deny the privileges of the mail to any publication so long as it is in the line of "gratitude as to comment adversely upon this pronouncement. Who knows? A court that dares to question this decree may find its rulings barred from the mails.

## NEW YORK COTTON

By the Associated Press  
New York, Dec. 27.—The cotton market opened firm at a decline of one to ten points on near months, but five to 18 points on May, which responded to overnight buying orders. March sold up from 36.17 to 36.30 shortly after the call of 11 points net higher, while January recovered its opening loss.

	Open	Close
January	37.90	37.92
March	36.50	35.95
May	34.50	34.10
July	32.95	32.60
October	29.80	29.52

## TO DEMAND FORMER CROWN PRINCE ALSO

By the Associated Press  
London, Dec. 27.—The former German crown prince, who is in the list of prisoners whose surrender will be demanded by the French, according to Edward Ignace, French commissioner.

The ex-crown prince, it is said, will be charged with criminal offenses, including looting and robbery with violence committed in France.

There appears to be no further decision reached at the conference on the case of the former emperor.

A full list of men for surrender will be demanded, it is stated, and steps to be taken to insure their surrender have been decided upon. The plans will be submitted to Premiers Lloyd George and Clemenceau when they meet in Paris next month.

## HOTEL SYNDICATE BUYS IN RICHMOND

By the Associated Press  
Richmond, Va., Dec. 27.—A syndicate operating hotels in Charlotte, Salisbury, Greensboro and other North Carolina cities, has closed a deal for the Richmond hotel, paying \$750,000 for the property.

## NEW MONTE CARLO READY IN A YEAR

The oft talked of plan for establishing a "Monte Carlo of the Western Hemisphere" in Cuba which shall be the wet rendezvous for thirsty and sportive Americans after prohibition has dried up the well-springs of inspiration, is not a mere rumor but a going concern with plenty of capital and backing.

The contemplated great resort, which is expected to outdo the Old World variety of games of chance, has been definitely located in the little watering place of San Diego Hot Springs, a few miles west of Santiago. There is only a small hotel there now, but by the winter of 1920-21 there will be two large new hotels, a great casino and any number of smaller attractions. A deer preserve of some 1,200 acres will be in shape for hunting by those who care to spend time in that fashion.

The concession for the resort has been granted by the Cuban government to the Compania Balmoria de San Diego, which has put up \$800,000 in gold as an evidence of good faith. The company has taken a 99-year lease on the resort site and has already, it is said, awarded the contracts for the building of the casino and the hotels to American firms.

One hotel will be modeled after the Traymore in Atlantic City, it is said. This will be exclusively for all-season guests. The other will somewhat resemble the McAlpin in New York city will be open to as many transients as it can accommodate. The entire layout represents an investment of between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000, according to The World's informant, a New York lawyer who is looking after the interests of the American backers of the plan.

The company holding the concession is made up entirely of Cubans, most of whom are wealthy and are prominent in Cuban politics. Originally it was planned to have an American syndicate take the concession, but the Menocal government, it is said flatly opposed this idea and refused to grant it to any but Cubans. It is understood, however, that the capital stock will eventually be owned in large part by Americans. The chief promoters of the plan on the American side include one prominent financier who is interested in several hotel companies in this country.

Ignacio Montalvo, brother of Juan L. Montalvo, Cuban minister of the interior, is the president of the Compania Balmoria de San Diego. The vice-president is Dr. Frederico Torralbas, former minister of sanitation. E. S. Azpiaza, private secretary to President Menocal, who was at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday, confirmed the report that the company had the concession but said he did not know whether any Americans were interested in the plan.

Although the officers of the company are Cubans, all of the management and personnel of the resort will be strictly American.

Only personally introduced guests will be admitted to the Casino. The company even now is importing shipments of choice champagnes from France, madeiras and sherries and ports from Spain and Portugal, rum from Jamaica and in lesser quantities from the United States.

As for the contemplated plan of the Interdenominational Committee of the Church on Co-operation in Latin-America for fighting the movement for a Monte Carlo in Cuba, scheme point out that under a recent enactment of the Cuban government it is provided that Cuba cannot go dry for at least thirty-five years more. New York World.

## TO HOLD FUNERAL FOR GEN. COX SUNDAY

By the Associated Press  
Richmond, Va., Dec. 27.—Funeral services for Gen. William Ruffin Cox, distinguished Confederate veteran and former North Carolina statesman, who died here last evening, will be held from Christ Episcopal church at Raleigh, N. C., tomorrow afternoon and interment will be in Oakwood cemetery.

General Cox who had the distinction of being the last Confederate commander to relinquish the fighting at Appomattox court house, had a distinguished career in the Confederate army, being wounded 11 times. His command prolonged the fighting for some time after the armistice was signed.

General Cox, after the close of the war, served as secretary of the United States senate and as a member of congress from his own state of North Carolina and as circuit judge and state attorney general. He was born in Scotland Neck, March 11, 1831.

## New York Without A Bread-Line.

New York World.  
Not in many years, if ever, has the number of homeless and destitute persons dependent upon the city for assistance been so small as this winter. It is an encouraging condition, the more gratifying because of the approach of the Christmas season.

When zero weather finds the municipal lodging house almost unattended, the reason is not far to seek. Where a few years ago its capacity was taxed to the limit, Wednesday night only sixty-two men and two women applied for shelter. The laundry mission was deserted; the bread line has disappeared. A man who wants work can get it in three hours," was the explanation there.

The problem of unemployment, at least temporarily, has been solved. Plenty of work and good pay is the reaping a harvest. With few exceptions, the cases of idleness are those who refuse opportunities to work or belong to the class of "chronic lazy," who neither pride nor self-respect can urge to earn a decent living. Short of bad health or hard luck, the man out of a job and walking the streets can hope for little sympathy.

Of those in distress through sickness or misfortune, of the physically unfit and others in distress who are deserving of help, there must always be many at all times of the year in a city of the size of New York. They are the worthy appeals and to whom care and relief, according to their necessities, must be extended as a matter of duty by the community. Christmas should see them the better provided because the demands due to lack of work and uncertain wages this year have so greatly decreased.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McClure have returned from Derita where they spent several days with relatives.

Mr. John F. Miller, Jr., of Washington, D. C., who holds a position with the War Risk Bureau, spent Christmas at home visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Miller. He left last evening for Troy to visit his sister, Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson before returning to Washington.

## Poovey-Rink

Mr. Floyd Poovey and Miss Claudie Rink were united in marriage last evening at the residence of Rev. J. E. Barb, who performed the ceremony. The young couple will reside in Hickory. The bride is a daughter of Mr. James Rink, who lives just north of the best wishes of many friends, the city, and she and the groom have

## MASTER CHARLES SIPE IS REPORTED BETTER

Master Charles Sipe, who was run over by an automobile driven by Mr. W. A. Self late Wednesday afternoon, is getting along well at Richard Baker hospital, it was announced today, and it is believed he will recover. The little fellow has been conscious practically all of the time and the news that his condition is "better" will be received with joy not only by his parents and friends.

William Hunter Barkley has steel legs that carry him at a steady jog over 14 miles of fields in a single afternoon and that insist on a few more miles at night for good measure. If there is anybody who thinks he can walk, communicate at once with the sporting editor of the Record.

## CHURCH NOTICES OMITTED

Owing to the absence of an operator, the Record was unable today to handle all of the copy and several local matters were left out of the paper. We had to run short on local or care cut late and cause many subscribers to miss their church notices were omitted today, but services will be held in all the churches tomorrow and members should attend.